



**Indiana
Department
of
Health**

Drug Overdose Prevention Newscast

Feb. 7, 2023

Updates

Adolescents and Opioids

A recent government study discovered that adolescent overdose deaths are on the rise in the United States. In fact, the rate of teen overdose deaths increased four-fold between 2010 and 2021. Despite this staggering statistic, many teens do not receive medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD). Buprenorphine is one of the commonly prescribed medications for opioid use disorder, and its prescription rate fell 45% from 2015 to 2020.

There are specific barriers that may explain the low prescribing rates for teens. Health care providers may lack training in treating OUD, especially for younger age groups. In addition, providers previously had to undergo training to prescribe MOUD. This required training has recently been eliminated by the removal of the [X-Waiver](#).

Molly Bobek, associate vice president of Family and Adolescent Clinical Technology and Science at the not-for-profit Partnership to End Addiction, notes that family support in the treatment process is also key to reduce stigma and promote adherence to long-term medication. For a more extensive review of the study, visit the link below.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

Mobile Crisis Center in Hancock County

To respond to ever-growing mental health needs, Community Behavioral Health/Gallahue Health Center is developing a mobile response team in Hancock County with community health workers who will respond directly to community members in crisis. So far, a manager for the mobile unit has been hired, and other positions are being added.



**Community
Health Network**

The plan is to have shift teams of two working 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. seven days a week. Tondra Crum-Worley, program manager at Community Behavioral Health/Gallahue Mental Health Center, said that within a year service will be available 24/7.

One of the challenges the crisis center is facing is funding and workforce. Though the facility is currently down three therapists, the Gallahue Mental Health Center is building partnerships with colleges and universities through Community Behavioral Health's internship practicum program. As Indiana rebuilds the crisis system and prioritizes mental health legislation, innovative solutions, like mobile crisis centers, may become more common.

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Upcoming Events

Overdose Reversal Kit Making

5 p.m.-7 p.m. EST, Feb. 7

Overdose Lifeline Office—1100 W. 42nd St., Indianapolis

Hosted by: Overdose Lifeline

Join Overdose Lifeline every other Tuesday evening to assemble overdose reversal kits for distribution to the public. This volunteer activity will contribute to saving lives. Volunteers make kits to distribute across the state. ODL distributes on average 1,000 kits a week to individuals and family members in all 92 counties.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

Aspire Presents: Dr. William Cooke, author of *Canary in the Coal Mine*

5:30 p.m.-8 p.m., Feb. 10

Paramount Theatre, 1124 Meridian St., Anderson

Hosted by: Aspire Health Indiana

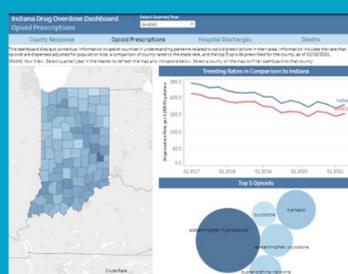
Please join us for this **free event** to hear Dr. Cooke's story about facing this health crisis and how the battle for a small community turned to hope and increased healthcare access regardless of social status.

The evening will begin with a networking session with attendees and local community resources with light refreshments. Followed by hearing from Dr. Cooke about his book and experiences in Scott County. To close out the evening there will be a raffle drawing of some signed copies of *Canary in the Coal Mine*.

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Indiana Drug Overdose Dashboard

Please visit the [Indiana Drug Overdose Dashboard](#), where you will find data from 2017 up to provisional data for 2021. In this dashboard, you will find data regarding opioid prescriptions, hospital discharges, and drug-related deaths. You can use this dashboard to explore overdose data at the county and state levels.



To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers

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